

REMARKS

Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Heller et al. (U.S. 6,769,254). Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Satoshi (JP 58142035). Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tischer et al. (U.S. 5,301,781). Claim 18 was rejected as being unpatentable over Tischer et al. (U.S. 5,301,781) in view of Jager et al. (U.S. 6,516,255). Claims 19 to 25 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 17 and 19 have been amended.

Claims 18 and 26 to 33 have been canceled.

Reconsideration of the application based on the following is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Heller et al. (U.S. 6,769,254).

Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of previously presented claim 18.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Satoshi (JP 58142035).

Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of previously presented claim 18.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tischer et al. (U.S. 5,301,781).

Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of previously presented claim 18.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 18 was rejected as being unpatentable over Tischer et al. (U.S. 5,301,781) in view of Jager et al. (U.S. 6,516,255).

Tischer et al. discloses a clutch for vehicles.

Jager et al. discloses “a method of operating a motor vehicle that is equipped with sensors to detect the rpm-rates of driven wheels.” (See Abstract).

Claim 18 has been canceled and the limitation has been added to claim 17. Claim 17 has been amended to recite, “a hydraulic actuation system, comprising:

- a master cylinder unit;
- a slave cylinder unit;
- a hydraulic medium line connecting the master cylinder unit and the slave cylinder unit;
- a throttle valve for adjusting a flow resistance between cylinders of the master cylinder unit and the slave cylinder unit;
- an actuator configured to actuate the throttle valve;
- a piston sensor configured to detect a movement of a piston in at least one of the cylinder units; and
- a control unit connected to the piston sensor and controlling the actuator.”

Admittedly, Tischer et al fails to teach or show “a piston sensor configured to detect a movement of a piston in at least one of the cylinder units; and a control unit connected to the piston sensor and controlling the actuator,” as recited in amended claim 17. The Jager et al. actuator 13b actuates the piston 11a of a master cylinder and does not control any actuator of a throttle valve. In fact, no reference shows a control unit connected to a throttle valve actuator. The Jager et al. actuator has a different purpose and cannot actuate the throttle valve, but rather controls a different element.

It is respectfully submitted it would not have been obvious to one of skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Tischer et al. and Jaeger et al. to arrive at the present invention.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 18, now a part of amended claim 17, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

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Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 19 to 25 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In light of the discussion above, withdrawal of the objection to claims 19 to 25 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

No fee is believed required. If any fee is required at this time, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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